



The occasion and manner of *Mr. FRANCIS
WOLLEYS* death, slaine by the Earle of
CHESTERFIELD at *KENSINGTON*,
January 17. 1659.

*written by a Gentleman of the Middle
Temple to his friend in Chef-shire.*

SIR,



O give you a more exact account of this sad disaster and death of *Mr. wolley*; I hold it proper to impart to you the first rise of their unhappy acquaintance; *Mr. wolley* mounted on a sprightly Maire (about a quarter of a year before the accident) passed in the streets at *London*, and riding in the *Covent-Garden*, the Earle seeing and liking the Maire, dispatcht a Foot-man to him, to know whether the Maire was to be sold, or not; *Mr. wolley* answered she was if he might have his price, hereupon a second message was sent to him to speak with the Earle, which direction presently observed, the Earle and he agreed of a price, eighteen pieces in gold, and immediately the Earle was owner of the Maire, and the Gentleman of the money. And having acquainted the Earle in the presence of *Master Windam* his friend (now of the Middle Temple) that the Maire, before he had her, was *Major Salkills*, who liveth in *St. Martins-Lane*; and that she was a gift bestowed on him; relating likewise that he resided sometimes at the Middle Temple, and sometimes with his father at *Hammer-smith*, whither he was then returning; his Lordship tendred *Master wolley* his Coach to carry him thither, which civility refused, they then parted, from which time being about three moeneths *Master wolley* never saw the Earle, nor received a line or word from him, untill accidentally passing in the street on *Saturday*

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last, the Earle being in his Coach, seeing Master *Wolley*, called him to him, telling him that his Maire proved not according to his word, and therefore he required him to retake the Maire, and refund the money. To which Master *Wolley* replied, that he looked on that command of his Lordship, as neither reasonable nor just, for that he never made him any such promise, and therefore desired his pardon, for he would not obey it in that particular. To which the Earle speedily added that he should expect then to hear further from him; so they parted at that time.

It seems from these sparks a greater fire was quickly kindled: on *Monday* morning following the Earle did hasten to *Hammersmith*, where lighting at the Goat he dispatched Master *Philip Howard*, son to the Earle of *Berk-shire*, to enquire for Master *Wolley* at his fathers house, meeting presently with him, he desired him to walk up to the Lane where the Earle of *Chesterfield* stayed, to which motion Master *Wolley* assented and went; but what passed betwixt the Earle and Master *Wolley* is not yet discovered, his Lordship or Master *Howard* best know. After half an houre, or thereabouts, Master *Wolley* returning to his Fathers House, and being demanded what was the result and conclusion with his Lordship; told his father that he was pressed to retake his Maire, but he resolved the contrary; and said that the Earl and he parted friendly; after dinner on *Monday* Master *Wolley* rode abroad, and pretended to visit a Gentleman who lived not far from *Fulham*, and returned not till it began to grow dark, discovering no distemper either by his carriage or language: And in this composure having after Supper craved his parents blessing, he retired to his Chamber, and so to Bed; the next morning being *Tuesday*, he rose very early, and privately without noise got out of his Chamber, walking, as he was wont, towards the Stable (for so the Cook-maid observed him in his Gown) where he found his Groome. In the mean time his father having no suspicion of his sons death and danger so neere, continued his repose in his bed, untill in the revolution of some second thoughts he knockt and call'd for his servant to come up, and directed her to wish his sonne to come to his father; who when she returned told her that Mr. *Wolley* was not to be found, then she was desired to enquire for his Groome, and she returned with a second answer that she could not meet with him. The afflicted parents, in their bed alarm'd with these confused circumstances rose speedily, and in their so divided and distracted thoughts knew not where to seek and search for their sonne; yet in their amazements and affrights his father intreated a civil person who lodged in the house, and some neighbours to walk abroad and enquire after him; but no news was brought to the Doctor of his sonne, until it was dispatcht to him by a messenger sent from Mr. *Colebies* of *Kensington*, who told him, oh Sir your sonne is flaine, and lies dead in a field below Mr. *Colebies* house, which sadnesse proved

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proved too true. The Corps gored with blood fallen on the ground had received two wounds ; the one on the left hand , which tore and pierced the nerves and sinews : The other passed quite thorough the body, making the orifice neer the right Pap, & came forth on his back under the plate of his left shoulder. Having, now as neer as I can related the occasion and manner of his death, I shall impart to you what I observed at his Funerals, which were honoured by many Templars and Persons of quality as well as others, who with wet eyes, testified the dolour and sadnesse of their hearts for the Gentlemans violent and untimely death : but that which I conceived most observable was an elegant Oration of the preacher, *Mr. Fowler* who commended the Gentleman to the grave with a large Character, and a Catalogue of many worthy vertues, which were eminent in him when he was alive ; and therefore more happily now honoured him at his death : amongst other graces and qualities he highly commended him for Piety towards God, Charity to the poore , Modesty, Chastity, Temperance and Sobriety : and it was a sincere note of his devotion ; That in this Re'ncounter the Common-prayer Book was found in his pocket when he was dead, as his only best Companion to the last gasp. The preacher gave him another encomium before he suffered the dust to cover the Corps ; That his lips were never accustomed or polluted with Lies, nor blasphemous and horrid Oathes. And as for obedience to his parents ; That he was an unparalell'd Example , and truely as he had some advantages by his four years travel abroad, so for his six yeares Residence in the Temple he was observed to be as civil and hopeful a Student as the choicest in that Society.

FINIS.

